

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/918,972

Examiner

Zachary A. Davis

Applicant(s)

DOBBINS ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment received 11 October 2007.

2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,3,4,9,10,26-29 and 40-50.

3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:

1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.

(a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached

1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.

(b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____

4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material


5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____

7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment

8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

9. ☐ Other _____


ZACHARY A. DAVIS
SENIOR PATENT EXAMINER

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. A response was received on 11 October 2007. By this response, Claims 1, 4, 9, 10, and 26-28 have been amended. Claims 30-39 have been canceled. New Claims 40-50 have been added. Claims 1, 3, 4, 9, 10, 26-29, and 40-50 are currently pending in the present application.

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Irah Donner on 04 January 2008.

3. The application has been amended as follows:

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IN THE CLAIMS:

Please **REPLACE** Claims 41, 42, 44, 45, 47, and 50 with the following amended claims.

41. The method of claim 4, wherein the user specific portal Web page displays to the user services ~~[[that]]~~ to which the user can optionally subscribe.

42. The method of claim 4, wherein the user specific portal Web page provides to the user a captive portal environment ~~for the user~~.

44. The method of claim 43, wherein the service bundle comprises ~~[[all]]~~ content resources provided by a particular content provider.

45. The method of claim 43, wherein the service bundle comprises ~~[[all]]~~ content resources paid for with a single monthly fee.

47. The method of claim 43, further comprising:

~~Automatically~~ automatically associating the user to the service bundle if the user belongs to a pre-specified subscriber group.

50. The method of claim ~~[[45]]~~ 49 wherein the one or more advertisements are targeted to appeal to the user based on the user's subscriptions of content resources.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 1, 3, 4, 9, 10, 26-29, and 40-50 are allowed.

5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Independent Claim 1 is directed to a method for managing content resources that includes receiving a subscription request specifying a user specific content resource, determining whether a user is authorized using the user's IP address, determining a network resource requirement for presenting the user specific content responsive to user specific content rules, and providing a network resource to transmit the content resource based on the resource requirement and the user specific content rules to satisfy the request. The closest prior art, Amin et al, US Patent 6714987, as previously cited, discloses a method including receiving a subscription request specifying a content resource, determining that the user is authorized to access the resource using the user's IP address, determining a network resource requirement required for presenting the resource, and providing a network resource based on the network resource requirement to satisfy the request. However, Amin does not disclose that the content resource is user specific, nor does Amin disclose user specific content rules. Norris, US Patent 6718328, discloses restricting access to content to specific users based on a user's IP address; however, Norris also does not disclose user specific content rules. Huston et al, US Patent 7243136, also discloses managing user-specific content and the use of IP addresses in determining authorization; however, Huston also fails to

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disclose user specific content rules. Therefore, the subject matter of independent Claim 1 is patentable over the cited prior art.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Zachary A. Davis whose telephone number is (571) 272-3870. The examiner can normally be reached on weekdays 8:30-6:00, alternate Fridays off.

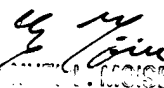
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Emmanuel Moise can be reached on (571) 272-3865. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



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